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QUADRENNIAL REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, CATEGORIES I AND II

Quadrennial reports, 1988-1991

Reports submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 3 May 1968

Addendum

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BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

(Category II)

The aims and purposes of the Baptist World Alliance, as stated in its constitution, are to promote Christian fellowship and cooperation among Baptists throughout the world, bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and assist unions and conventions in their divine task of bringing all people to God through Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, promote understanding and cooperation among Baptist bodies and with other Christian groups, in keeping with our unity in Christ, act as an agency for the expression of Biblical faith and historically distinctive Baptist principles and practices, act as an agency of reconciliation seeking peace for all persons, and uphold the claims of fundamental human rights, including full religious liberty, serve as a channel for expressing Christian social concern and alleviating human need, serve in cooperation with member bodies as a resource for the development of plans for evangelism, education, church growth, and other forms of mission, provide channels of communication dealing with work related to these objectives through all possible media. The membership is made up of organized Baptist bodies such as unions and/or conventions which desire to cooperate in the work of the Alliance.

At the beginning of the four-year period, 1988-1991, membership of the Baptist World Alliance was 35,418,044. During the period membership increased to 37,801,976, an increase of approximately 7 per cent. At the beginning of 1988 there were 137 member bodies; at the end of 1991, 156. Our member bodies have headquarters in 100 nations, with Baptist work in approximately 200 different countries.

Member bodies of the Baptist World Alliance are represented on all continents and in most countries of the world. The largest number of member bodies is in Asia and Africa, and the countries where most Baptist people live are Brazil, India, Myanmar, Nigeria and the United States.

Funding is received from member bodies, Baptist associations, churches and individuals.

The Baptist World Alliance values its consultative status which allows it to speak before the NGO Committees and present its views on mutual issues. It endeavours to participate actively in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, where possible.

The Baptist World Alliance has representatives to the United Nations in the three major centres, New York, Geneva and Vienna. The representatives attend sessions and actively participate, where appropriate. A report of the BWA's involvement in the United Nations is presented every year to the General Council of the Alliance when information about the world body's programme is conveyed to Baptist delegates from all over the world. Resolutions taken by the General Council which support the emphasis of the United Nations are conveyed to the United Nations. In 1991 the Baptist World Alliance served as

one of the hosts to the Non-Governmental Organization's Conference on Peace, Justice and Development: Ingredients for an Emerging World Order.

The Baptist World Alliance has been particularly active in supporting the work of the Commission on Human Rights. The Alliance's own Human Rights Commission convenes annually to monitor and report to its member bodies on human rights abuses in different countries. It seeks to identify areas where a denial of religious freedom occurs. It encourages its member bodies to protest human rights abuses to Governments and other bodies.

In 1991 the Baptist World Alliance decided to send a delegation each year to a country where human rights abuses occur. The first delegation visited El Salvador in January 1992. It met with the United Nations representatives in San Salvador on that occasion. This initiative of sending Alliance delegations to protest human rights abuses will continue.

The Baptist World Alliance encourages its member bodies to adopt the current concerns of the United Nations and endeavours to gear its teaching activities around those concerns.

A major overlapping interest between the United Nations and the Baptist World Alliance is in the area of disaster relief, aid and development. Baptist World Aid makes regular disbursements of monetary and other assistance where the greatest needs are seen to exist. Considerable relief and development funds have been provided to many countries in the quadrennial period, in every region of the world. Much of the assistance comes as a response to the regular United Nations "Situation" reports which are sent to the Alliance. In late 1991 an airplane was chartered by the Baptist World Alliance to provide food to Russia.

The Baptist World Alliance, responding to pleas from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, has sought to provide significant funds for refugee peoples in many areas, especially in Africa.

The Baptist World Alliance, through its Commission on Christian Ethics, seeks to respond to issues raised by the Commission for Social Development. It has concentrated on issues like child abuse, the spread of AIDS, and the environment.

The Baptist World Alliance's Women's Department has used the statistics provided by the Statistical Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women to highlight abuses and injustices faced by women, especially in areas of the world where women are particularly disadvantaged.

There are many areas in which the objectives of the United Nations and the Baptist World Alliance coincide, and the Baptist World Alliance welcomes a continuing relationship as a non-governmental organization.

GREENPEACE

(Category II)

United Nations/General Assembly

Driftnets

Greenpeace was deeply involved over much of the period in question with the issue of driftnetting on the high seas. Regular contact was made between its staff in Europe, North America and the South Pacific with United Nations missions which were leading the discussion on driftnets. Briefings were held for representatives of regional groupings of United Nations Member States in New York. The initial efforts were directed towards the adoption of resolution 44/225 in December 1989. Greenpeace subsequently focused on the "follow-up" resolutions adopted in the next General Assembly sessions.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Greenpeace followed and tried to influence the development of thinking at the General Assembly on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The initial efforts focused on resolution 44/225 in 1989. Greenpeace representatives were present in New York on a number of occasions before the Conference to try to influence the informal discussions on it (see also below).

United Nations Environment Programme: regional seas forums

Barcelona Convention

Greenpeace was very actively involved in the work of the (Barcelona) Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution. In addition to attending all the regular meetings of the body, Greenpeace was recently admitted to meetings of the committees of the Convention, which has significantly enhanced its ability to provide relevant information and advice to decision makers. The Political Division of Greenpeace employs a staff member, based in Rome, whose primary responsibility is to work on this Convention.

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

Greenpeace staff, mostly those based in New Zealand, have been involved in SPREP for a number of years. The principal interests have been the testing of nuclear weapons in the Pacific by France, the impact of climate change on low-lying States in the region and, more recently, the development of a possible protocol to the Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.

Cartagena Convention

Greenpeace staff have regularly, over the last four years, attended meetings of the Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean. The primary objective was the development of the Protocol for Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife, which is now in place. Future work in the forum may include work on the trade in toxic and hazardous wastes.

Coordinating Body for the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)

A Greenpeace staff member attended the regular meeting of COBSEA in 1988, but it was not thought at that stage that the organization would invest a significant amount of energy in the forum. The situation remains under review.

International Maritime Organization

In 1991, during the period under review, Greenpeace acquired consultative status with IMO. Its intention is to work actively in IMO itself and also in some of its constituent committees, such as the Marine Environment Protection Committee and the Maritime Safety Committee, as and when the agendas of these bodies coincide with issues in which Greenpeace is involved.

"London Dumping" Convention

Greenpeace has been extensively involved in the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, under IMO, during the entire period under review. The primary interests have been to ensure the cessation of the incineration of wastes at sea and the cessation of the dumping of radioactive wastes at sea. The latter issue is regularly a key item on the Convention's agenda and will be the subject of intense discussion again at the Convention's meeting later in 1992. In addition to the Convention itself, Greenpeace has been regularly represented at meetings of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Radioactive Waste Dumping (IGPRAD).

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Greenpeace has recently acquired liaison status with FAO, though has yet to participate formally in FAO activities in a significant manner. Over the past several years, informal work has been done with respect to FAO on pesticide issues and fisheries. It is likely that the future main focus of Greenpeace's work will be in the area of fisheries.

Climate-related forums

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Greenpeace was an active participant in all meetings of the Intergovernmental Panel from its inception to the present. Written materials have been circulated to delegates and Governments at all meetings attended. A major part of Greenpeace's contribution has been to make available staff with a strong scientific background to provide advice to Governments without the necessary domestic scientific expertise.

International Negotiations on Climate

As a logical extension of its work on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Greenpeace was involved in the same manner in the International Negotiations on Climate and attended all sessions of the negotiations, which eventually culminated in a framework convention which was signed during the Rio de Janeiro "Earth Summit".

Protection of the ozone layer

Greenpeace has been involved in all sessions of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer held during the period under review. Written submissions were made to delegates during all meetings attended.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

Greenpeace was involved throughout the UNCED process as one of the NGOs which was most closely tracking the process. Greenpeace staff participated in discussions with individual missions in New York on many occasions during the period, and participated in all four of the PrepComs for the meeting - Nairobi in August 1990, Geneva in March and August 1991, and New York in March 1992.

Greenpeace also had a strong representation in Rio de Janeiro itself during the UNCED meeting. The organization's resources were divided there between the International Press Centre, from where a media team operated, and Rio Centro, the conference site, where its political staff were located.

For every meeting during the process, documents on matters of concern to Greenpeace were prepared and distributed to delegates, and were also mailed to relevant ministers in United Nations Member States. A team of political and campaign staff was present during every stage of the negotiation of the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 to ensure that the organization's interests were represented.

It is expected that Greenpeace will actively follow up in 1992 at least two of the initiatives which arose from UNCED and which will be discussed

further in the context of the General Assembly: the development of a Sustainable Development Commission and an international Conference on High Seas Fisheries.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Though Greenpeace does not have status with IAEA, it has nevertheless been able to participate, by invitation, in some of the Agency's deliberations, primarily on liability issues.

HUMAN RIGHTS INTERNET

(Category II)

Human Rights Internet is an international communications network of more than 2,000 organizations and individuals in 90 countries. Its goal is to keep the human rights community world wide - scholars, human rights advocates, and policy-makers - informed about developments relevant to the protection and promotion of human rights as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the human rights instruments of the United Nations and other international bodies. It also promotes human rights education and research and maintains a documentation centre and computer databases of human rights materials.

Internet has a publications programme which produces Human Rights Internet Reporter (formerly quarterly, now semi-annual) which abstracts and indexes thousands of publications each year (academic literature on human rights, reports of non-governmental organizations, and the documents of governmental and intergovernmental agencies, including relevant United Nations reports and studies about the United Nations); Human Rights Tribune, a new quarterly magazine of news and analysis which follows and interprets human rights developments, including developments in the United Nations; Human Rights Education: The Fourth R (semi-annual, co-published with Amnesty International USA); human rights directories; and special resources and reports.

Several of Internet's special resources have been specifically devoted to elucidating the critical role played by the United Nations in the protection and promotion of human rights. These have included On the Brink of a Mid-Life Crisis: The United Nations at Forty (report on the forty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights) (1988); UN Watch (Spring/summer 1988); For the Record: Indigenous Peoples and Slavery in the United Nations (a special report of two working groups of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities; August 1991); and a special chart on United Nations human rights bodies, which has been reprinted in several textbooks for teaching human rights.

At the present time, Internet is compiling a volume - to be jointly published by the Centre for Human Rights and UNESCO - of syllabi for teaching human rights at the university level world wide. In March 1990, Internet published a special resource for the World Health Organization, Double Jeopardy: Threat to Life and Human Rights. Discrimination against Persons with AIDS. In 1989, Internet published A Guide to Establishing a Human Rights Documentation Centre, which was a report of a UNESCO/United Nations International Training Seminar on the Handling of Documentation and Information on Human Rights. (Internet's Executive Director served as Rapporteur for that seminar.)

To follow the work of the United Nations, Internet representatives have attended every session of the Commission on Human Rights and its

Subcommission, many sessions of United Nations treaty-monitoring bodies, and other United Nations meetings. An Internet representative actively participated in all of the meetings of the Non-Governmental Organizations Ad Hoc Group on a Draft Convention of the Rights of the Child.

Internet's Executive Director has also served as a resource person for the United Nations on various occasions. She taught at the seminar on information-handling for third world librarians, organized by the United Nations Office at Geneva in 1991; assisted with the technical assistance that the United Nations has given to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights; is currently assisting UNICEF in elaborating a system for managing information on the rights of the child; and is preparing a background paper on information and documentation for the UNESCO World Congress on the Teaching of Human Rights, to be held in March 1993.

In addition, Internet regularly provides information about the United Nations to members of its network, upon request, including how to apply for consultative status, how to obtain United Nations documents, and how to submit communications under various United Nations procedures or to special rapporteurs. Internet also alerts the network to the special information needs of United Nations rapporteurs or bodies, particularly as requests are conveyed to Human Rights Internet by the Centre for Human Rights.

Internet hopes to play a significant role in the forthcoming World Conference on Human Rights, collaborating with other human rights NGOs in publishing a newspaper during the Conference and in preparing a special report on it. Internet also hopes to participate in at least one of the regional meetings preparatory to the World Conference.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES (ICOMOS)

(Category II)

Background and objectives

ICOMOS was founded in 1965 at Warsaw, Poland. It is the only international non-governmental organization that works to promote the application of theory, methodology and scientific techniques to the conservation of architectural heritage. ICOMOS has five principal objectives:

(a) To bring together conservation specialists from all over the world and serve as a forum for professional dialogue and exchange;

(b) To collect, evaluate and diffuse information on conservation principles, techniques and policies;

(c) To cooperate with national and international authorities on the establishment of documentation centres specializing in conservation;

(d) To work for the adoption and implementation of international conventions on the conservation and enhancement of architectural heritage;

(e) To put the expertise of highly qualified professionals and specialists at the service of the international community.

ICOMOS works in conjunction with UNESCO and attends regular meetings on cultural matters at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris. It also works with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

In conjunction with UNESCO, ICOMOS carries out a professional evaluation of the nominations of cultural or mixed properties to the World Heritage List, to be examined by the World Heritage Committee; carries out a number of missions as may be agreed upon with the secretariat of UNESCO; and continues to operate the UNESCO/ICOMOS Documentation Centre in cooperation with the International Committee of Museums (ICOM) and the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), within the framework of a joint international documentation programme under the aegis of UNESCO. This involves the collection, cataloguing and dissemination of documents and publications on the preservaton and presentation of movable cultural property, museology and museography.

Budget and financing

The ICOMOS sources of revenue are membership fees, subventions and contracts. They permit ICOMOS to operate its international secretariat, assuring contact with 68 national and 14 international committees. The secretariat includes a permanent staff of six who work producing all documentation and correspondence in both English and French.

Every year ICOMOS handles some 600 research projects, organizes a world-wide International Day for Monuments and Sites, manages 12 expert missions, brings out a newsletter for members, and publishes a thematic bibliography and the results of its studies in the UNESCO series "Studies and Documents on Cultural Heritage".

Administrative structure

The General Assembly, which meets every three years, is the sovereign body of ICOMOS, comprising all its members. It determines the programme and budgetary orientations for the triennium to come and sees that the objectives of ICOMOS have been met. The Executive Committee is the managing body of ICOMOS. The Advisory Committee, comprised of the chairmen of the national and international committees, bring together experts of world-wide reputation for the conservation of architectural and natural heritage.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LITTLE BROTHERS OF THE POOR

(Category II)

The primary purpose of the Little Brothers of the Poor, a volunteer-based organization founded in Paris by Armand Marquiset in 1946, is to address the problems of isolated and/or handicapped elderly people in need.

The International Federation was created in 1979 in order to regroup national organizations of Little Brothers/Friends of the Elderly. At present such national organizations exist in the following countries: Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Morocco, Spain and the United States. An existing group in Lebanon has been affiliated to the International Federation as a correspondent.

Members seek to provide, in addition to material assistance when needed, friendship and affection to their elderly friends through visits, social activities and holiday outings to those who would otherwise have none. Moreover, for almost half a century the organization has been initiator of many advanced projects that have served as forerunners and models in the realm of service to the elderly. Today special attention is directed to the needs of two segments in particular: extremely old and dependent elderly persons, and the "young elderly" (55-65 years) suffering from long-term unemployment, unable to recycle themselves before reaching official retirement age and who run the risk of becoming the elderly poor of tomorrow.

United Nations meetings and conferences attended

In November 1988 the executive director of the International Federation participated as an observer at the meeting of the board of the Conference of NGOs in consultative status (CONGO) at the United Nations Office at Geneva. A major item on the agenda was a wide-ranging discussion of United Nations/NGO relations, in particular with regard to the secretariat and member States.

In May 1989 the executive director attended a meeting in Geneva of the NGO/WHO collaborative group on ageing.

From 13 to 15 September 1989, the executive director participated in the annual NGO conference, Environment and Development: Only One Earth, organized by the Department of Public Information at United Nations Headquarters in New York. At that time the executive director also met with a number of representatives of UNDP regarding a development project that he was overseeing for a federation member association in Mexico.

On 25-26 October 1989, the executive director participated as an observer in the CONGO board meeting at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

From 11 to 13 September 1991, the executive director attended the DPI/NGO conference, Peace, Justice and Development: Ingredients for an Emerging World Order, at United Nations Headquarters.

In addition to such general contacts, the executive director is in liaison with the Ageing Unit of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs at the United Nations Centre at Vienna, the unit most directly focused on matters of concern to the International Federation.

Internal activities pertaining to the United Nations relationship

At the biennial General Assemblies of the International Federation, held at Minneapolis (United States) in June 1989 and Dourdan (France) in May 1991, reports were made by the executive director on issues and activities involving the International Federation and the United Nations. Similarly the executive director reports on his liaison with the United Nations at regular executive board meetings. It is on these two occasions that pertinent United Nations information is most directly diffused to member countries of the International Federation.

From 31 May to 2 June 1989, French-speaking members of the International Federation, together with other partners, organized an international conference on the topic, Dependent elderly people, which took place in Geneva at WHO headquarters.

Member organizations of the International Federation seek, in their specific contexts, to develop a better world for their elderly charges in keeping with principles that also underlie the United Nations. Working in harmony with other partners, both private and public, with total respect for individual persons, the International Federation through its members aims both to assist those in need and to influence society in such a manner that those needs are adequately addressed. Numerous activities undertaken by member organizations are in harmony with and exemplify recommendations of the United Nations 1982 International Plan of Action on Ageing.

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION

(Category II)

The International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR) is a world-wide network of women and men who share a commitment to the creation of a peaceful and just world community with full dignity and freedom for every human being. Its first groups were formed in the crucible of the First World War; IFOR itself was founded in 1919. Today IFOR is active on all continents, with branches and cooperating groups in more than 50 countries. It includes Buddhists, Christians, Jews, Hindus, Muslims and people of other spiritual traditions who work together to overcome manifestations of violence and division in the human family. In the past four years there has been particular new growth in Africa, Asia, and parts of eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. In the past, several IFOR members, including Dr. Martin Luther King, have been awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace, and in 1991 its Honorary President, Dr. Hildegard Goss-Mayr, was awarded the Niwano Peace Prize of the Niwano Peace Foundation, evidence of the growing importance with which the world holds non-violence as a key to the evolution of a more peaceful and just world order.

IFOR representatives in New York, Geneva and Vienna seek to maintain direct linkages with United Nations bodies. Via these representatives the positions and actions of IFOR are made known to the United Nations system and United Nations work and possibilities are interpreted back to the membership of IFOR.

Security and disarmament

IFOR has been particularly concerned with many of the aims of the United Nations as set out in the Secretary-General's report, "An agenda for peace": preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace-keeping and post-conflict peace-building. In the past four years, IFOR has greatly expanded its own emphasis on education and training for conflict resolution using non-violent means and increasingly sees this as the central thrust of its work. This has led IFOR to new work in many different parts of the world over the past four years, including conflict settings like Cambodia, the former Yugoslavia, and Somalia. IFOR sees its role in this work as actively supporting the United Nations system in the evolution and strengthening of its capacities in peace-keeping, peacemaking and peace-building.

IFOR has a continuing interest in disarmament and arms control. Its representatives have followed the open sessions of the Committee on Disarmament, especially those dealing with a ban on chemical weapons. In June 1989, the IFOR General Secretary was selected to participate in the Regional Conference for the World Disarmament Campaign, which took place in Dagomys, USSR. IFOR has continued its campaigning efforts for a comprehensive ban on the testing of nuclear weapons as another of its main disarmament-related pieces of work, and its representatives participated in

the 1990 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and in the January 1991 Partial Test-Ban Treaty Amendment Conference. Representatives have been in contact with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and have participated in its seminars on arms control. IFOR has also taken a special interest in issues related to international trade in weapons. It has also followed with interest the evolution of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and participated as a non-governmental observer in CSCE meetings in Geneva and Moscow.

Human rights

The most active contribution of IFOR in the work of the United Nations has been in the field of human rights. IFOR has participated actively in the Commission on Human Rights, the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the working group of the Commission which drew up the draft declaration on the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. Representatives have also followed meetings of the treaty bodies serviced by the Centre for Human Rights - in particular, the Human Rights Committee, the Committee against Torture, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the new Committee on the Rights of the Child.

IFOR has presented oral and written statements on such agenda items of the Commission on Human Rights as the administration of justice, human rights in times of armed conflict, human rights and states of emergency, the elimination of racial discrimination, the realization of economic, social and cultural rights, human rights and the environment, the protection of minorities, the right to leave any country, conscientious objection, the promotion of human rights and the situation of human rights in specific countries.

IFOR has cooperated in giving information to the human rights special rapporteurs, in particular to those on torture, summary executions, states of emergency, the elimination of all forms of intolerance based on religion or belief, and to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. It has joined with other NGOs in seeking to have the issue of "impunity" achieve greater attention within the United Nations system. IFOR is cooperating in the preparation of the World Conference on Human Rights and has stressed the need for education for human rights at all educational levels. IFOR is also cooperating in the preparation for the 1993 Year of Indigenous Peoples.

IFOR works actively with other non-governmental organizations during the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission to increase the effectiveness of non-governmental organizations in the vital role which they play in partnership with the United Nations in promoting the development of a broad range of human rights standards and the adherence internationally to standards.

Economic, social and cultural efforts

The Fellowship strives to build a social order that will utilize the resources of human ingenuity and wisdom for the benefit of all. Therefore the representatives of IFOR have stressed the promotion and defence of vulnerable sectors of the population, especially women and children, the rural poor, ethnic and religious minorities. The Fellowship has also stressed the need for ecologically sound development and the links between militarism, poverty and damage to the global environment. IFOR participated actively in the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit) in 1992.

IFOR supported the World Decade for Cultural Development (1988-1998). It seeks to work with UNESCO and sees its own emphasis on non-violence education and training as having particular importance for the peace education concerns of UNESCO. IFOR has also promoted the importance of the United Nations Decade for International Law (1989-1999), with particular stress on the growing body of human rights law and the importance of the International Court of Justice.

IFOR's work at the United Nations in the field of economic, social and cultural matters draws on the experience of IFOR groups engaged in the promotion of justice in many parts of the world. This work includes such issues as women's rights, the needs of refugees, the development of democratic structures, and ecologically sound development.

Information

Many of the issues which make up the agenda of concern by the United Nations are reflected in IFOR publications and in the publications of its national branches and affiliated groups. IFOR seeks to draw attention to its work in relation to those issues and, via its publications and other media, to aid its own constituency and the wider public in the understanding of issues and the reality and potential of United Nations institutions.

Cooperation

In its work with the United Nations in Geneva, New York, and Vienna, IFOR cooperates closely with other non-governmental organizations in consultative status to facilitate relations between the United Nations and NGOs in such fields as disarmament, human rights and development.

IFOR sees its consultative relationship with the United Nations as vital to its own work and is appreciative of the efforts made within the United Nations system to accommodate it and other NGOs in the common struggle to build the institutions of peace.

INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL

(Category II)

The aim and the purpose of IITC are:

(a) To recognize and promote the political, economic and cultural sovereignty and self-determination of indigenous nations around the world;

(b) To base its work and activism on the traditional values of the indigenous world, and to recognize and respect the guidance and leadership of our traditional elders and spiritual leaders;

(c) To build and strengthen unity and alliances among indigenous peoples of the world;

(d) To affirm the rights of indigenous peoples as expressed in international treaties, laws, and principles of human rights;

(e) To educate non-Indian people and organizations about Indian culture and struggles for justice and self-determination;

(f) To present an indigenous world view based on peace, respect and balance as an alternative to militarism, industrialism, and exploitation and destruction of the natural world.

The geographical membership and work of IITC have increased to include networking with indigenous groups through international and regional conferences, which allows IITC to develop unified perspectives and strategies for protecting and advocating the rights of indigenous peoples.

Much of the work programme of IITC is focused on the Indian people in North, Central and South America and the Pacific Islands who are fighting for land, hunting, fishing and water rights; freedom for Leonard Peltier and other political prisoners; religious freedom; and respect for native sovereignty. It supports these causes by providing technical assistance in organizing and media relations and by publicizing the struggles to the international community. IITC continues to publish a newsletter - quarterly or as often as funding allows - to keep the national and international community informed of current issues, events and conferences. Unfortunately the sources of funding for IITC have not kept pace with the increased workload in its programme areas.

IITC attended and addressed the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fourth, forty-fifth, forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions. The subject of Guatemala in the area of human rights was of concern and priority. IITC consistently requested the Commission on Human Rights during oral interventions to extend the mandate of the independent expert, so as to continue to examine the human rights situation in Guatemala and provide assistance to the Government in the field of human rights.

The forced removal of indigenous peoples from their sacred and traditional homelands is another area of priority. The critical situation of a policy of forced relocation of the Hopi and Navajo from the Big Mountain area in Arizona, created in 1974 under Public Law 93-531, was described each year to members of the Commission on Human Rights.

The subject of political prisoners and the question of the human rights of all persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment were also matters of high priority for IITC. The plight of Leonard Peltier was raised at the 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991 sessions of the Commission on Human Rights by IITC as a case in point of a person's right to a fair trial. Accordingly IITC welcomed resolution 1989/27, of the Subcommission, in which it decided to appoint two of its members to prepare a report on existing international standards that pertain to the right to a fair trial. IITC, in turn, responded to the request of the two special rapporteurs for its attention to the revised questionnaire relating to national practices in regard to the right to a fair trial.

Because the subject of treaties between indigenous peoples and States/nations has been a matter of contention for quite some time and a primary concern to IITC since its first appearance in the international arena, a major accomplishment in the United Nations was the adoption of resolution 1988/56, by the Commission on Human Rights, on the significance of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements for the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous populations. IITC continues to follow new developments with regard to the United Nations study on treaties and during March and April 1991 facilitated the visit to the United States of the treaty study special rapporteur.

Other meetings and conferences attended by IITC

Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, each year

(United Nations) Working Group on Indigenous Populations, each year

Summit Meeting (United States and USSR) on Nuclear Disarmament, June 1988

Fate and Hope of the Earth, held in Managua, Nicaragua, July 1989

First International Indigenous Conference on Environment, held in Panama City, November 1989

Continental Forum on racism in the Americas and Caribe, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, September 1990, sponsored by World Council of Churches

Eighteenth session of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, World Conservation Union, held in Perth, Australia, 28 November-5 December 1990

Thirteenth IITC Treaty Conference, held in Arctic Village, Alaska, August 1991

Meeting of Experts to Review the Experiences of Countries in the Operation of Schemes of Internal Self-Government for Indigenous Peoples, held in Nuuk, Greenland, 24 September 1991, sponsored by the United Nations.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF HOUSING FINANCE INSTITUTIONS

(Category II)

Introduction

The International Union of Housing Finance Institutions (IUHFI), founded in 1914, is the international organization for institutions concerned with the provision of loans for house purchase. The Union adopted its new name on 1 January 1989, previously having been called the International Union of Building Societies and Savings Associations. The principal purpose of the Union is to provide its members with information about housing finance developments throughout the world which are relevant to their own operations. It also helps establish contact between housing finance institutions in various countries.

World Congresses

The 18th World Congress of IUHFI was held in Washington, D.C., 18-20 September 1989. Seven hundred people attended from about 50 countries. The Congress focused on the changes in housing finance institutions and in particular the lessons learned from deregulation. The rapid deterioration of specialized housing finance institutions in America provided an excellent example of how government policy affects housing finance mechanisms.

The International Union, along with the European Federation of Housing Finance Institutions, held its 19th World Congress in Hamburg, Germany, in October of 1991. Representatives from 45 countries participated. The Congress covered broad ranges of subjects, from perspective on fiscal and monetary politics to self-help as decisive factors for housing construction and housing finance in developing countries.

International Housing Finance Conference

The International Union hosted a conference in London, 21-22 November 1989, entitled "Housing Finance - an International Perspective". Representatives from Canada, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Ireland, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States attended. They presented papers in the areas of technology, markets, international operations, national developments and regulatory developments.

Central and Eastern Europe Housing Conference

In June 1990, the International Union joined with the International Training Centre for Bankers, in Budapest, to present a programme to bring together key figures in housing and housing finance from Eastern and Central Europe with their counterparts from Western countries. Approximately

100 experts spent two days hearing papers and discussing their various experiences. The countries of Eastern Europe have no model that they can copy. Indeed, there's no expertise which explains how to move from a command economy to a market-based economy in respect of a commodity such as housing, which has a life of 100 years or more. The proceedings of the Conference which were published, form a useful and valuable source of information to those responsible for the formulation of policy in Eastern and Central European countries.

Third International Shelter Conference

Between 24 and 30 April 1990, the International Union co-sponsored the Third International Shelter Conference with the National Association of Realtors in Washington, D.C. The Second International Shelter Conference had been held during the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, in Vienna, in 1987. The International Union joined with 25 other private organizations representing a cross-section of housing organizations and housing associations from around the world. Five public partners representing national and international organizations, including the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, also participated.

Third workshop on housing policies in the context of socio-economic transition

In Berlin, on 8-10 October 1991, the International Union staff participated in a workshop on the responsibilities for housing provisions in a market-oriented and democratic socio-economic system. It was sponsored by the Economic Commission for Europe's Committee on Human Settlements.

Fannie Mae round table

In February 1992, the International Union and the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) co-sponsored a round table on sustainable development. The round table included representatives of both public- and private-sector housing finance authorities from 14 countries. It recognized that over the long term, the future sustainability of human settlements in large part depends on the arrangements for financing of housing and urban infrastructure. The round-table participants drafted a paper to demonstrate the importance of financing human settlements, which was made available to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as a part of Agenda 21. It was decided that the final report of the Secretary-General of the Conference for presentation to the Earth Summit should be further expanded to include issues and recommendations regarding housing finance and sustainable development.

Publications

The International Union produced International Housing Finance Sourcebook in early 1992. The Sourcebook provides statistical data and other commentary about the organizations and systems of housing finance institutions in member countries throughout the world. In addition, the International Union continues to publish Housing Finance International, a quarterly magazine with thoughtful and provocative articles about housing finance developments as they occur world-wide.

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR CONFERENCE

(Category II)

The Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) is an international organization that represents approximately 115,000 Inuit living in the Arctic regions of Alaska, Canada, Greenland, and the Chukotka region in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

ICC believes that there is a profound relationship between development, human rights and peace. It is a strong supporter of international agencies which embrace the intrinsic relationships of these fundamental ideals. Its activities reflect this support.

The principal goals of ICC are:

(a) To strengthen unity among the Inuit;

(b) To promote Inuit rights and interests on an international level;

(c) To seek full and active partnership in the political, economic, and social development of circumpolar regions in order to promote greater self-sufficiency among Inuit and to ensure the growth of their culture;

(d) To develop and encourage long-term policies that safeguard the Arctic environment.

ICC holds a General Assembly every three years, inviting delegates from each member region to work together to develop policies and other initiatives. An Inuit Elders' Conference is held at the same time to direct and enrich discussions.

International Inuit rights and interests

Working Group on Indigenous People (Commission on Human Rights)

Current work includes the drafting of a Declaration which promotes international standards for the recognition of indigenous rights and interests. ICC has played a leadership role in encouraging the adoption of this declaration by the United Nations in 1993, the International Year for the World's Indigenous People.

Meeting of experts on self-government

In 1991, government representatives, indigenous leaders and policy experts from 13 different countries met in Greenland to discuss measures of autonomy and self-government for indigenous peoples. The main objective was to reach consensus on a set of international standards for self-government. A note entitled "Principles and elements of self-government" was presented by ICC.

International Labour Organisation

In 1989, ILO adopted the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention No. 169. It is the only international convention dealing with the social, economic and political rights of indigenous peoples. ICC participated in the revision process and is now encouraging its ratification by member countries.

Environmental activities

Inuit are trustees of a vast storehouse of traditional knowledge about their northern homelands, knowledge gained through centuries of adaptation and ingenuity in a harsh and exacting environment. This treasury of wisdom is the foundation of ICC's approach to the many critical problems now facing the Arctic areas.

Promoting the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples

ICC played an active role at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Along with other indigenous organizations, it was successful in obtaining recognition of the value of traditional knowledge in creating sustainable approaches to the use of natural resources. It also organized a major display on Inuit environmental knowledge which was presented at the Museo Historico Nacional in Rio during the Conference.

Protecting traditional Inuit pursuits

Subsistence hunting is a signficant source of food and income for many Inuit. Working through the International Whaling Commission, the World Conservation Union, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, ICC has advocated conservation practices to protect animal populations while allowing Inuit to continue their traditional hunting activities.

A look ahead

Today, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference is continuing the work established at the founding meeting of the organization 15 years ago. The sixth General Assembly held 20-24 July 1992, in Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories, Canada, helped determine the future course of ICC.

International Year for the World's Indigenous People

The International Year will create a unique opportunity to celebrate the histories, cultures, contributions, and aspirations of indigenous cultures the world over. Planning for it will be a major focus of ICC's work in 1992. ICC is endeavouring to encourage member regions to develop activities which publicly demonstrate Inuit culture and history.

MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

(Category II)

The Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) is an association of medical women representing women doctors from all five continents. MWIA's aims are to encourage communication between women doctors world wide, to encourage the entry of women into the medical and allied sciences, to assist medical women with postgraduate studies, to overcome discrimination between male and female physicians, to promote health for all throughout the world, with particular interest in women, health and development.

In 1989 five new associations joined MWIA: Medical Women's Association of Belgium, Section of Women Doctors of the Polish League, Association of Uganda Women Medical Doctors, the Medical Women's Association of Tanzania, Association of Medical Women of USSR (now Georgia).

MWIA representatives regularly attend meetings of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings. Of special interest are the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and WHO. It attended the meetings of the Conference of NGOs in consultative status (CONGO) in 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991.

In those same years, MWIA also attended the sessions of the Council, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the World Health Organization. At the sessions of the WHO Executive Board, the WHO Assemblies and WHO regional meetings (Americas, South-East Asia, Europe, Western Pacific), it sought to promote the general interest of medical women in international issues affecting health. It also participated in special meetings and workshops.

MWIA identifies members with expertise who are wiling to serve on the WHO expert advisory panels. It participated in the UNICEF Immunization Programme in Nepal with a contribution of $10,000 over a period of three years. It is a partner in Facts For Life, published by UNICEF, WHO and UNESCO. The MWIA representative in Geneva serves on the Editorial Board of the Women and World Development series and participated actively in the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. MWIA affiliates contribute in various ways to matters of national, regional and international health. They are involved in United Nations programmes and cooperate with United Nations agencies on a national basis. Cooperation is mainly with WHO and UNICEF, because of MWIA's special interest in health issues.

Examples of recent cooperation:

(a) EPI: The Society of Medical and Dental Women of Ghana; the Association of Medical Women in India; the Egyptian Medical Women's Association;

(b) World AIDS Day: The Kenya Medical Women's Association (workshop in cooperation with UNICEF); the Korean Medical Women's Association (seminar in cooperation with WHO);

(c) Medical Field Day: WHO office in Nairobi requested the Kenya Medical Women's Association to conduct a Medical Field Day in 1988 and 1989;

(d) Health for Elderly: The Danish Medical Women's Association was asked by the WHO regional office to cooperate in various areas.

In its circular letter, the MWIA secretariat regularly informs MWIA members on activities and programmes of United Nations bodies and agencies that are of special interest to the aims of MWIA.

MWIA keeps in contact with the Technical Adviser of WHO, who provides counselling for activities.

The President-elect helped the editorial board of the Women and World Development series by reviewing the draft of "Women and Health".

MEDITERRANEAN WOMEN'S STUDIES CENTRE*

(Category II)

The Mediterranean Women's Studies Centre (KEGME), located in Athens, Greece, was founded in October 1982, following a resolution adopted at the first Mediterranean Women's Conference, held in Athens, in October 1980.

KEGME is a Board Member of the European Network of Scientific and Technical Cooperation for Women's Studies of the Council of Europe (ENWS) and a member of the Greek National Platform of NGO's for Development in the EEC.

The Centre is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. A wide network of women scientists and researchers, mainly from the Mediterranean, closely cooperate in the activities of the Centre, which are:

(a) To study, analyse and improve the position of Mediterranean women in the socio-economic development of their countries and the region at large;

(b) To increase awareness and stimulate action that will promote equality between women and men in all areas of life;

(c) To sensitize women about ecological problems and mobilize them to protect the environment and save the Mediterranean basin from pollution;

(d) To assist women in preserving their cultural heritage and their women's values;

(e) To develop methods and take initiatives in conflict resolution and in the promotion of peace;

(f) To support national and international campaigns and programmes about issues of major concern such as AIDS, drugs, alcoholism etc.

To achieve its objectives KEGME has developed various areas of responsibilities: feminist and action-oriented research, gender studies programme, women's training programmes in Greece and in third-world countries, organization of seminars, symposia, workshops, conferences etc., programme of feminist alternatives for the promotion of peace and security, activities relating to the protection of the environment, programmes for cooperation between women for the promotion of democracy in Europe, and information and documentation.

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* Formerly "Mediterranean Women's Studies Institute".

Since 1988 KEGME has organized and implemented the following activities:

Research

Women and drugs in Greece (1988-1989)

Greek women and politics (1988-1989)

Greek women in employment and education (sponsored by UNESCO, 1989)

The participation of women in decision-making processes related to peace and disarmament: the case of Greece (sponsored by the Branch for the Advancement of Women, Vienna, Austria, 1990)

"Young women and their educational and vocational training" (1990)

"Women and environment" (sponsored by the Branch for the Advancement of Women, 1991)

Drug consumption - secondary-school female students (sponsored by UNESCO, 1992)

Gender studies

KEGME has undertaken three gender-studies summer programmes, attended by women scholars, teachers and students from the Mediterranean region and around the world:

(a) Education towards the year 2000: traditional vs feminist pedagogy in the Mediterranean (July 1988);

(b) The social history of European women (1989);

(c) Women in Europe facing the challenge of 1992 (June 1990).

Training programmes

(a) Contemporary trends in the labour market (1989);

(b) Vocational training and new technologies (1990);

(c) Women and management (1991);

(d) Education information on farm women in developing countries (1989-1990).

Environment

(a) Women and environment: Research project sponsored by the Branch for the Advancement of Women, Vienna, 1991;

(b) Women and sustainable development: seminar for rural women, 1992.

KEGME was elected to present a "success story" at the Global Assembly of Women and the Environment in Miami, Florida. It participated in the fourth Preparatory Committee meeting for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

Promotion of democracy

(a) Building a Europe without frontiers - the role of women (November 1991). An East/West conference sponsored by the General Secretariat for Equality, Greece;

(b) Women in a changing Europe - the rights of immigrant and refugee women (November 1992). A conference sponsored by the General Secretariat of Youth, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Greece.

Information and documentation centre (IDC)

KEGME has established a regional information and documentation centre for the Mediterranean region. It includes a library and a computerized documentation unit.

KEGME has initiated a series of one-day seminars on crucial social issues: 1991: Women and drugs; 1992: Women and preventive medicine for gynaecological types of cancer.

Future programmes

(a) Research: European integration: Perspectives and risks for young women (1991);

(b) Training programmes: Food preservation and management, child care and home hygiene (1993); a "train-the-trainers" programme for rural women in Nigeria.

PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION

(Category II)

Parliamentarians for Global Action is a network of political leaders from around the world. Membership is open to any elected person currently serving in a national or regional legislature. At present it comprises some 750 parliamentarians from 65 countries.

The stated constitutional goals of Parliamentarians for Global Action are to assist members in "the resolution of global problems at the United Nations and other international fora". In pursuit of these ends, the organization has mounted programmes in seven areas, designed to develop a new global security system for future generations: United Nations peace-keeping and collective security; nuclear-test ban and non-proliferation; sustainable development (including environmental security and international economic reform); international law and global institutions (focusing on the creation of an international criminal court); a parliamentary initiative for democracy; a multilateral verification project; and a special programme on Africa.

Funding continues to be dependent on voluntary contributions from philanthropic foundations and individuals.

During the past four years, perhaps the most notable achievement of Parliamentarians for Global Action was the convening of the Partial Test-Ban Treaty Amendment Conference, which met for the first time in January 1991 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The idea for the conference was initiated by the organization, which spent several years, in the late 1980s, lining up support for the idea through its international parliamentary network. In its address to the Amendment Conference, Parliamentarians for Global Action presented the Conference president with an "open letter", signed by over 2,000 members of Parliament and Congress, calling for an end to nuclear testing. Just prior to the Amendment Conference, a parliamentary delegation also met with the United Nations Secretary-General and presented him with another copy of the open letter. Parliamentarians for Global Action continues to work with the Conference president with a view to the further work of the Amendment Conference.

In the areas of environment and development, Parliamentarians for Global Action has developed close relationships with a number of United Nations bodies, including UNDP, UNIFEM, and the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The Secretary-General of the organization addressed the Third Preparatory Committee Meeting of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Geneva in August 1991. During the final Preparatory Committee meeting (in New York in March 1992), Parliamentarians for Global Action convened a parliamentary workshop, with the cooperation of UNDP and UNIFEM, entitled "UNCED & Equity". UNIFEM provided partial funding for the workshop, and leading participants included the UNIFEM Director and the Conference Deputy Secretary-General.

As part of its Special Programme on Africa, Parliamentarians for Global Action was represented, with an address given by the Finance Minister of Botswana, at the final review conference of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development in New York in September 1991.

Parliamentarians for Global Action is also working in support of efforts to strengthen the peace-keeping and collective security role of the United Nations. At a meeting of the organization's Parliamentary Commission on United Nations Collective Security, held in Ottawa in May 1991, participants heard from two Under-Secretaries-General. More recently, the organization mobilized behind the Secretary-General's report on preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping. Parliamentarians for Global Action met with the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs several times as the report was being developed and, through its international network, the organization intends to encourage support for the Secretary-General's recommendations in capitals around the world.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

(Category II)

Prison Fellowship International (PFI) is a voluntary association of national Prison Fellowship organizations in 52 countries and affiliated groups in an additional 63 countries. PFI is involved in a broad range of criminal justice concerns and works through its affiliated national organizations to promote citizen participation in criminal justice. PFI provides a world-wide forum for discussing issues and developing awareness concerning crime and the treatment of offenders.

PFI is governed by an international Board of Trustees comprised of two elected representatives from each of seven geographical regions (Europe, Central Asia, South Asia, Oceania, South America, North and Central America, and Africa). The Board represents a broad-based membership of community leaders, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens.

PFI has significant interests in United Nations activities concerned with crime and the treatment of offenders, human rights, women, youth and the family, relief and development and peace.

Consultative and substantive activities

PFI has been an active member of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (New York). It has also participated in meetings of the NGO Committee on Human Rights and the NGO Committee on Narcotics and Substance Abuse. In 1991, PFI initiated a study by a working group of NGOs on the topic of prison health care. A report, including recommendations, by the working group is being prepared for publication and distribution. PFI is also a constituent member of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Representatives of PFI consulted with members of the Secretariat and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch on matters of interest. PFI participated in the preparations for the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders (Havana). It also participated in a number of the ancillary meetings offered at the Congress, on such subjects as community participation in corrections; strategies for increasing the use of alternatives to imprisonment; implementation of the principles embodied in the Declaration of Basic Principles for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power; waiting for justice; conditions for prisoners awaiting trial in Latin America and Western Europe; and drugs and drug-related crime: approaches to curb the explosive relationship. PFI is participating in preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress.

PFI participated in a variety of regional and national conferences sponsored by the United Nations, including the first session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna). PFI also participated in

various regional and national meetings, including the United Nations and crime: the international agenda for criminal justice and crime prevention - reflections on the 1990 Cuba Crime Congress (American Society of Criminology, 1990, annual meeting, Baltimore), and Middle East perspectives on criminal justice (Cairo, Egypt).

Information and activities in support of the United Nations

PFI keeps up regular efforts to inform its leadership and membership about the United Nations and to encourage support for United Nations activities. PFI maintains representatives at United Nations Headquarters in New York, Geneva and Vienna, and at the headquarters of each of the regional commissions. Information and news related to United Nations activities is sent to PFI national affiliates regularly and is also disseminated via PFI's various membership publications. Extensive use is made of pertinent United Nations documents, including guidelines, standards and norms for crime prevention and the treatment of offenders and prisoners, which PFI distributes to its national affiliates.

Written and verbal reports on United Nations activities and PFI involvement are routinely included in the agenda of PFI international and regional meetings. Workshops at PFI's triennial international congresses (San José, Costa Rica, 1989, and Seoul, Republic of Korea, 1992) have focused attention on United Nations activities with respect to issues of racial discrimination, human rights, children and youth, prison health care, alternatives to imprisonment, and the treatment of offenders.

The activities of PFI briefly noted in this report will indicate PFI's wholehearted support for the United Nations as well as PFI's specific advocacy and promotion of the objectives and work of the Economic and Social Council.